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Alan Davis + NEARY

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ON THIS
DARKEST NIGHT OF
HUMANITY'S SOUL...

...MANHATTAN
ISLAND
BURNS!

STUCK UP
LORD AND
MANTHET
NASTIER!

DEMONS HULK ITS
STREETS
RULE ITS
SKIES.

AND THE
NATURAL
ORDER OF
THINGS...

WHO'S HE
THINK...

...HE IS
ANYWAY?

... IS THAT THERE
IS NO NATURAL
ORDER.

GROB'S
SERVES HIM
FAITHFULLY.

DOES
ALL HE
COMMANDS
AND
MORE!

IS CROTUS
REWARDED?

HAH!

AND IN THE BLAZING
HEART OF THIS
BLDRITCH INFERNAL...

...THERE'S
NO ONE TO
NOTICE...

...AS A BURNED
AND BETRAYED
LITTLE DEMON...

???

!!

GOBLIN MORN!

... GIDDY STUMBLES
ACROSS HIS
HEART'S DESIRE!

Bride
&
Groom

IT'S--

--HER!

A STAN LEE
PRESENTATION,
STARRING
EXCALIBUR

BY CHRIS CLAREMONT WRITER - ALAN DAVIS PENCILER
PAUL NEARY INNER - AUSTIN WIS LETTERER
GUYNIS OLIVER COLORIST - TERRY RAVENHORN EDITOR
TOM DE FALCO - CLAREMONT & DAVIS
EDITOR IN CHIEF CREATORS



OBOY! OBOY!

CROTUS,
YOU LUCKY
DEVIL...

--WHATEVER
DID YOU DO
TO DESERVE
THIS?!



HUMPH--HIGH-
AND MIGHTY
FORMER
MAWTHTER
N'ASTIRH...

...SACRIFICING
EVERYTHING...



...TO POSSESS
THE POWER OF
THE GOBLIN
QUEEN.
BECAUSE--TEEF-AM-
OF MADREYNE
PRIOR'S LINK...

...TEENTSY-TINY
THOUGH IT IS...



...TO THE PHOENIX--

...ONE OF THE
PRIMAL FORCES
OF ALL
CREATION!

FOOLISH
MAWTHTER--WHY
BOTHR WITH THAT
FACSIMILE...

...WHEN THE
REAL THINGS IS
HERE AT HAND!

SHE WAS HUMAN
ONCE--BUT FOR
ALL HER MIGHT...

...INFERNO ENSNARED
HER, AND MADE HER
THIS PLASTER-PLASTIC
STATUE!

BAD FOR
PHOENIX, GREAT
FOR CROTUS!



WITH THE SORCERIES
IN MY MAWTHTER'S
GRIMoire, I CAN
BIND THE PHOENIX
TO MY WILL!

AND
WITH THAT
POWER...

...CROTUS
WILL RULE--

--EVERYTHINGS!



WON'T THAT
BE NICE?



YOU'RE SMILING.
THAT MEANS YOU
APPROVE.
CROTUS IS SO
GLAD.



MEANWHILE...

RUN FOR IT!

LIKE "JASON AND THE ARGONAUTS," MAN...

...WHERE THEY FOUGHT THOSE HARRYHAUSEN HARPIES...

THAT WAS A MOVIE, ZEKE...



... THIS IS REAL!

WHAT IS REALITY, ANNA, BUT A STATE OF BEING?

YAWN!



MOVE FILM...

...IT'S ALIVE...

...DRAGGING US INTO THE THEATER!

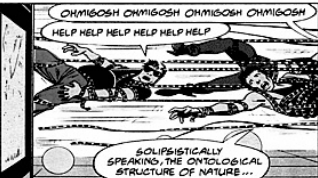
CHEER... WHAT SOME CINEMAS WON'T DO...

...TO PULL IN AN AUDIENCE!



BRIAN BRADDOCK IS FAST BUCK KITTYY PRYDE VICTIM

FAST BUCK IN TEENBIMBOWARGORESHOCKER 23



OHMIGOSH OHMIGOSH OHMIGOSH OHMIGOSH

HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP

SOLIPSISTICALLY SPEAKING, THE ONTOLOGICAL STRUCTURE OF NATURE...



THIS IS CRAZY!

ONLY AS REGARDS OUR EXTERNALIZED, ONTOGENETIC FRAME OF REFERENCE.

YOU COULD LOOK AT IT AS THE REVERSE...

...OF WOODY ALLEN'S "CONCEPTUALIZATION OF 'THE PURPLE ROSE OF CAIRO.'"



THERE, YOU HAD A CHARACTER STEP OUT OF THE SCREEN AND INTO "OBJECTIVE" REALITY.

HERE, CONVERSELY, OBJECTIVE REALITY AS EXEMPLIFIED BY US...

PIF

FST

JUST GOT DIDDY-BOPPED, ...INTO A KICKING AN' SCREAMING...

...INTO A MOVIE!

BRIAN, CAN WE TALK?

IT'S ME KITTY!

WHATEVER'S HAPPENED, HOWEVER WE APPEAR...

...WE'RE STILL PALS, RIGHT?

YOU DARE CHALLENGE THE MIGHT OF THE GOBLIN PRINCESS.

UM-HM.

THE PENALTY FOR THAT TRANSGRESSION...

...IS DEATH!

WRONG!
NO MORE PALS.

CAPTAIN BRITAIN HAS GONE TOTALLY LOONEY!

THANKS TO MY PHASING POWER...

...HE CAN'T TOUCH ME.

BUT THE REFUGEES BEHIND ME AREN'T SO LUCKY!

GOTTA FOCUS MY CONCENTRATION. SOLIDIFY ENOUGH TO TAKE BRI DOWN, TRY TO DISABEYONCH!

YOU'RE SUCH A LITTLE BIT OF A GIRL.

DON'T YOU KNOW WHEN YOU'RE HOPELESSLY OUTNUMBERED?!



SHOULDN'T REMEMBERED, LUMMOX--

--THE BIGGER THEY ARE...



...THE HARDER--

--NO!

KITTY!



CAP?

ARE YOU--
--GOING TO KILL ME?



I...I... ..WANT TO...

--MORE THAN JUST ABOUT ANYTHING!

LIKE I'M NOT REALLY ME...

...BUT SOME ACTOR, PLAYING A ROLE.

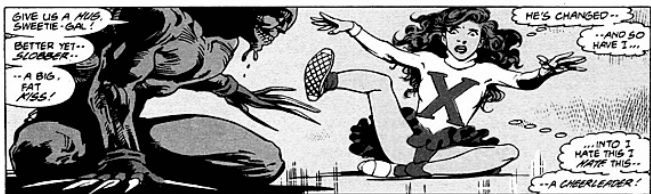
JEES! THIS IS SCARY.



NAAAAH, THAT ISN'T SCARY.

THIS IS SCARY!

CAP!?!



GIVE US A HUB, SWEETIE-GAL!

BETTER YET-- SLOOBER--

--A BIG, FAT ASS!

HE'S CHANGED--

--AND SO HAVE I...

...INTO I HATE THIS I HATE THIS--

--A CHEERLEADER!

MEANTHILE...

DISGUSTIN'!

DA NOIVE O' PEOPLE--

--CROAKIN' RIGHT OUT INNA MIDDLE O' DA STREET!

AIN'T DEY GOT NO CIVIC PRIDE OR NOTHIN'?

WRITIN' GRAFITTI ALL OVER...

...USING SIDEWALKS FER TERLETS.

Y'ASK ME, DIS BURG'D BE BETTER OFF...

PURE RUFF

SANITATION NYSD

CRACKIN' CRACKIN'

...IF 'N WE JUS' GOT RIDDA EV'RYBODY AN' LEFT DA BIG APPLE TO US MACHINES WHO APPRECIATE IT! MORE CURS'N THEIRS, ANYWAY.

HEADS UP! INCOMIN'!

OH LORD, THE MONSTER'S SWALLOWED SOMEONE ELSE!

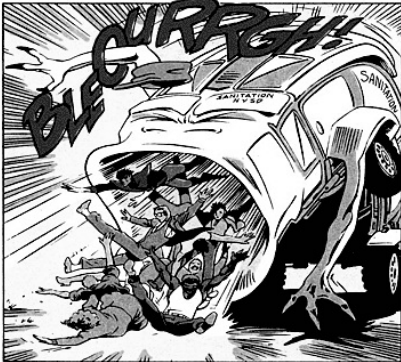
STRIKE A MATCH, WE'LL SEE IF HE'S...

...OHAY--?!!?

WUMP

IT'S ONE OF THEM--A DEMON--

GET HIM!







MEANWHILE...

TAKE THINGS A STEP AT A TIME, PUT THEM ALL IN SOME RATIONAL--THAT'S A LAUGH--PERSPECTIVE.

OUR TEAMMATE, *ORIN*, FLEW TO NEW YORK, ANSWERING A TELEPATHIC CALL FOR HELP FROM HER BABY BROTHER.

THE REST OF *EXCALIBUR*--MYSELF, CAPTAIN BRITAIN, MESSIAN AND SHADOW--CAT--FOLLOWED.

ONLY TO FIND...
WHAT?!

AN EMPIRE STATE BUILDING GROWN MILES HIGH.

PEOPLE TURNING INTO DEMONS, TRUCKS INTO MONSTERS.

EVEN MESSIAN HAS BEEN AFFECTED, HER HUMANITY STRIPPED FROM HER...

...BY THE DEMON N'ASTIRH...

...WHO CHRISTENED HER HIS "GOBLIN PRINCESS."

NO SIGN OF BRIAN OR KITTY OR RACHEL.

LORD KNOWS WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THEM.

WAY THIS NIGHT'S GOING, PROBABLY NOTHING GOOD.

OH, THAT'S WHAT I'M AFRAID OF.

HAVEN'T SEEN YOU ABOUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD BEFORE, YOU NEW IN TOWN?

HAHAH?!

ZUM TUEFUL--YOU'RE ALIVE!?

ACTUALLY, THE MORE ACCURATE TERM IS "ANIMATE."

LIFE, THAT'S A FACET OF CREATION, AND WE'RE CREATED WHEN THE SCULPTOR LAYS CHISEL TO STONE...

...TO TRANSFORM IMAGINATION INTO REALITY.

YOU'RE... NOT LIKE THOSE OTHERS...

...THE ONES ATTACKING THE CITY.

THEY'RE DEMONS. I'M A GARGOYLE.

AND A MOST CHARMING ONE.

THEY'RE FROM OUT OF TOWN, YOU SEE.

EVEN IF THAT WAS OUR NATURE, WHICH IT ISN'T...

...YOU DON'T DO HARM WHERE YOU LIVE.

GOING?

I MUST. I'M NEEDED.

I UNDERSTAND. I'VE SEEN A LOT OF YOU SUPER HEROES FLASH BY MY PERCH...

...BUT YOU'RE DEFINITELY ONE OF THE CUTEST.

A YOUNG WOMAN--
BEING ATTACKED--

BODIES
FOR US! FLESH IS
LIFE!

LET
ME GO!

-- BY A MANNEQUIN! --

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT,
MISS--?

OCTAVIA.

DON'T BE
AFRAID.

I'M NIGHT-
CRAWLER.

I KNOW. YOU
USED TO BE
WITH THE
X-MEN.

WHAT IS
HAPPENING?!

I WORK
AT
BLOOM-
INGDALES.

THOSE ARE OUR
MANNEQUINS.

SUDDENLY, THEY
CAME ALIVE...

...STARTED,
SWITCHING
PLACES...

...WITH
STAFF AND
CUSTOMERS...

...TURNING
THEM INTO
MANNEQUINS...

...AND
PLACING THEM
IN THE DISPLAY
WINDOWS...

...WHILE THE
MANNEQUINS
ROAM THE
STREETS.

ONLY ONE PLACE
ON 59TH STREET
OPEN--

UHHH-- WELCOME
TO FORBIDDEN
PLANET.

CAN
I HAVE AN
AUTOGRAPH?

...BANGSWAY,
SUPER HERO
COMING
THROUGH!

WHERE'S YOUR
BACK WALL?

BEATS ME.

VANISHED WHEN
EVERYTHING GOT
FRONT STARTED
GOING WEIRD.

ALTAIR-IV--
CRUISER 6570--
"ROBBY THE
ROBOT"--?!

ONE AND ALL. AND
THAT LANDSCAPE'S
LEGIT, I'VE BEEN
OUT THERE?

LEND A
HAND HERE,
PEOPLE!

WE HAVE
COMBAT ARMOR
AND WEAPONS FOR
EVERYBODY!

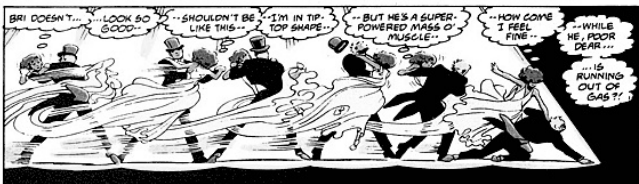
AND
FROM THE LOOKS
OF THINGS, WE'RE
GONNA NEED 'EM!





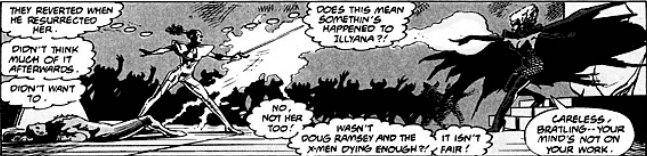


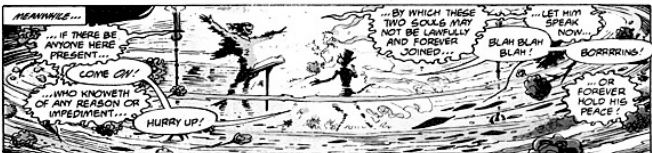














SERGIO ARAGONÉS
GROO
THE WANDERER

Don't think of it as an
Anniversary Celebration...

Think of it as a way for us
to make twice as much
money — and for you to
have twice as much fun!



A Double-Sized **50th** Issue Extravaganza!

By Sergio Aragonés, Mark Evanier, Tom Luth & Stan Sakai.

On Sale In December From Epic Comics®. 

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Bulpen Bulletins

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

"Hey... wait a minute! I just remembered! This circus doesn't have any Gorillas!"

—BRUNO THE STRONGMAN
SHE-HULK #1

ITEM: Shades of Assistant Editors' Month! Recently, based on the hairbrained suggestion of Jim DiGiovanna and Glenn Herdling, we shuffled around all assistant editors for a day so that Mike Rockwitz was paired with Craig Anderson, David Wohl with Bobbie Chase, Marc Stry with Terry Kavanagh, Daryl Edelstein with Jim Salicrup, Pat Redding with Greg Wright, Sara Tutchinsky with Don Deley, Sue Plazman with Howard Mackie, Dwayne McDuffie with Ralph Macchio, Marcus McLaurin with Bob Budiansky, Glenn Herdling with Carl Potts, and Jim DiGiovanna with Bob Harris. Supposedly, this was an extension of the weekly assistant editor classes held by Mark Gruenwald and Tom DeFalco, wherein Mark and Tom impart the Wisdom of Ages to the next generation of Marvel editors. So what did all the assistants learn? Well, they did get a real insight to how other Marvel editors conducted their day-to-day business, and at a meeting afterward, they all discovered that Jim Salicrup reads his comics out loud. Let the record show that A. A. Perry, Sid Jacobson's assistant, refused to have any part in this.

ITEM: Now if any of you are getting the idea that it's all fun and games around the so-called batty Bulpen, well, it is... sometimes. For instance this past Halloween our very own exec editor Mark (him again) Gruenwald literally organized the fun and games. Dwight Coyne, the man who returns all the original artwork to the artists, won the David Wohl Pop Bag Toss, the Pin-The-Nose-On-The-Gun, and the Knock-Out-The-Assistant-Editor-Cards competitions. Lyndie Strunk, our limbo opposer, won the women's limbo and the Bopping for Buddi-apples contests. The repro department's Rodney Timmons took top honors in the men's limbo contest. Ridiculous Ralph Macchio kicked himself in the "face" to win the Kick-The-Witch event. Peter David pitched the penny that produced the prize in the Pitch-The-Penny-In-The-Pumpkinhead. Cover coordinator Vinny Evans blasted the winning ball into the likeness of devil Don Deley's mouth, while Don Hudson won the Stuff-Mouth-Full-Of-Candy-Pumpkins, proving what a big mouth he has. But it was Tom DeFalco who should win the best sport award—poor Tom was forced to sit

still as everyone tried to lose plastic rings on his cigar and on the horns of his special wool cap. Mike Rockwitz won by zinging three rings in a row onto Tom's stogie... and he's still working here!

ITEM: Congratulations to newlyweds John Romita, Jr. and Chris Claremont! No, no, John and Chris didn't marry each other! John wed Patricia Baker on October 8th, and on October 9th Chris tied the knot with Beth Feldsher. We wonder how many of you Bulpen Page followers remember that J.R. was our one and only "Hunk of the Month"? Johnny would like all of you to forget that. Indeed, he would consider if your wedding present to him if you never mentioned "Hunk of the Month" to him ever again. Happy now, J.R.?

ITEM: Next month heralds the return to this page of the legendary column by the man who started it all! That's right, in thirty days Stan Lee's Soapbox will be back on the Bulpen Page! And Stan's got an extra-special announcement we're sure none of you will want to miss! Excelsior!

Pro file: MARC SIRY



MARC SIRY #25

Assistant Editor on: CAPTAIN AMERICA, DAREDEVIL, FANTASTIC FOUR, THOR, and about sixty thousand graphic novels.

Marvel freelance credits (past): Assorted **HAND-BOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE** series; assorted coloring jobs; fake ads and real consents pages for the **WHAT THE—?** limited series, and enough letters pages to drown a whole army of David Wohl's.

Marvel freelance credits (present): Assorted coloring jobs; the **ALPHA FLIGHT** and **PUNISHER** letters pages; and more junk for the upcoming **WHAT THE—?** #64 page special.

My hobbies are: Drawing, paintball wargames with Carl Potts, and fixing my Triumph Spitfire, which is really Satan in the form of a little red convertible.

The single worst thing I am most proud of is: Probably the fake ad on the back cover of **WHAT THE—?** #1 #2 which nobody read because the type was too small.

My pet peeves are: Failing for the old Marc-McLaurin-rings-my-phone-while-I'm-clear-on-the-other-side-of-the-office-so-I-have-to-run-for-it-and-he-hangs-up-just-as-I-get-there-trick. It works every single time. He thinks it's really funny.

My place of birth is: New York City.

My greatest accomplishment outside the comics field is: Living in New York City all day without getting mugged. If you don't think that's a great accomplishment then you must not live in New York City.

My oddest habit is: Hanging out until the wee hours of the morning in my neighborhood (Lower East Side) watering holes with my pals David Wohl (of New Universe fame) and Michael Yee (of Bulpen fame), even though I know full well I have to be at work at 9:00 A.M.

the next day...

If they were making a movie of my life, I'd like to see my part played by: I've been told I look like George Michael and Jon Cryer, but George and I have similar shaving habits, so he gets the part. **The reason I got into comics was:** It looked like so much fun!

People who knew me in High School thought I was: Irresponsible, unethical, and morally bankrupt. Or was that college?

My favorite performers are: RUN-DMC, DEVO, R.E.M., and Michael Rockwitz doing his brilliant impersonations.

The best good book I read was: **LOLITA** by Nabokov.

The last good movie I saw was: The original version of the **POSTMAN ALWAYS RINGS TWICE**.

My greatest influence on my work include: Eliot Brown, and everything else I've ever seen or heard. **My greatest unfulfilled ambition in the comics field is:** Down the hall, but she'd get upset if I printed her name.

The worst part of my job is: The tremendous mound of garbage that piles up on my desk every day. **When nobody's looking I like to:** Put the tremendous mound of garbage on Ralph Macchio's desk.

The one thing I really want the world to know about me is: That my two roommates, Stephanie and Andrea, will never forgive me if I don't mention their names. I hope they haven't kicked me out by the time this sees print!

✓ Checklist

- ☐ DAREDEVIL #256
- ☐ SEMPER FI #6
- ☐ WEST COAST AVENGERS #44
- ☐ WOLFPACK #10
- ☐ G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS #21
- ☐ CONAN THE KING #52
- ☐ EXCALIBUR #8
- ☐ SHE-HULK #1
- ☐ STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI #29
- ☐ WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #50
- ☐ G.I. JOE EUROPEAN MISSIONS #8
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #353

- ☐ SOLO AVENGERS #18
- ☐ THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #315
- ☐ THE NEW MUTANTS #75
- ☐ MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #19
- ☐ ALPHA FLIGHT #70
- ☐ WOLVERINE #7
- ☐ MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE #74
- ☐ THE INCREDIBLE HULK #305
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #223
- ☐ THE AVENGERS #303
- ☐ CONAN #218
- ☐ DAMAGE CONTROL #1

- ☐ G.I. JOE #86
- ☐ THE PUNISHER #19
- ☐ THE SILVER SURFER #23
- ☐ THE UNCANNY X-MEN #244
- ☐ THE SAGA OF THE SUB-MARINER #5
- ☐ THE FANTASTIC FOUR #326
- ☐ SPEEDBALL #9
- ☐ THOR #403
- ☐ DINO-RIDERS #3
- ☐ TRANSFORMERS #52
- ☐ X-FACTOR #40
- ☐ MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #20

- ☐ IRON MAN #242
- ☐ SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #150
- ☐ CLASSIC X-MEN #33
- ☐ DOCTOR STRANGE #4
- ☐ THE NAM #30
- ☐ POWER PACK #46
- ☐ MARVEL MAGAZINES
- ☐ THE NAM MAGAZINE #10
- ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #159
- ☐ CONAN SAGA #24